



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.3264

18 August 1993

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND
TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 18 August 1993, at 3.40 p.m.

President: Mrs. ALBRIGHT

(United States of America)

Members:

Brazil
Cape Verde
China
Djibouti
France
Hungary
Japan
Morocco
New Zealand
Pakistan
Russian Federation
Spain
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
Venezuela

Mr. SARDENBERG
Mr. BARBOSA
Mr. LI Zhaoxing
Mr. OLHAYE
Mr. MERIMEE
Mr. MOLNAR
Mr. HATANO
Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI
Mr. KEATING
Mr. NIAZ
Mr. VORONTSOV
Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO

Mr. RICHARDSON
Mr. ARRIA

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The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE SITUATION RELATING TO NAGORNY-KARABAKH

LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (S/26318)

LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (S/26319)

LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (S/26322)

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Azerbaijan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Hassanov (Azerbaijan) took a place at the Council table.

The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Council is meeting in response to the requests contained in the following documents: S/26318, letter dated 17 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, and S/26319, letter dated 17 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the

(The President)

President of the Security Council; and in a letter dated 18 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, photocopies of which are before the members of the Security Council and which will be issued as document S/26322.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following other documents: S/26305, S/26306, S/26307 and S/26308, letters dated 14 and 15 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, and S/26312, letter dated 16 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

Members of the Council have also received photocopies of letters dated 16 and 17 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, which will be issued as documents S/26315, S/26316, S/26320, S/26323, S/26324 and S/26325, and photocopies of letters dated 18 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, which will be issued as documents S/26327 and S/26328.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its serious concern at the deterioration of relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Azerbaijani Republic and at the tensions between them. The Council calls upon the Government of the Republic of Armenia to use its influence to achieve compliance by the Armenians of the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic with its resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993).

(The President)

"The Council also expresses its deep concern at the recent intensification of fighting in the area of Fizuli. The Council condemns the attack on the Fizuli region from the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic, just as it has previously condemned the invasion and seizure of the districts of Kelbadjar and Agdam of the Azerbaijani Republic. The Council demands a stop to all attacks and an immediate cessation of the hostilities and bombardments, which endanger peace and security in the region, and an immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of occupying forces from the area of Fizuli, and from the districts of Kelbadjar and Agdam and other recently occupied areas of the Azerbaijani Republic. The Council calls upon the Government of the Republic of Armenia to use its unique influence to this end.

"The Council reaffirms the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijani Republic and of all other States in the region and the inviolability of their borders, and expresses its grave concern at the effect these hostilities have had on the efforts of the Minsk Group of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict. The Council stresses its full support of the CSCE process, and notes particularly the opportunity that the current round of Minsk Group talks have afforded the parties to the conflict to present their views directly. In this context, the Council calls upon all of the parties to respond positively and within the agreed time-frame to the 13 August adjusted version of the Minsk Group's 'Timetable of urgent steps to implement United Nations Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993)' and to refrain from any actions that would obstruct a peaceful solution. The Council welcomes the

(The President)

intention of the CSCE to send a mission to the region to report on all aspects of the situation.

"In light of this most recent escalation of the conflict, the Council strongly reaffirms its call in resolution 853 (1993) for States to refrain from supplying any weapons and munitions which might lead to an intensification of the conflict or the continued occupation of territory of the Azerbaijani Republic. The Council calls upon the Government of the Republic of Armenia to ensure that the forces involved are not provided with the means to extend their military campaign still further.

"The Council also renews its call in resolution 822 (1993) and 853 (1993) for unimpeded access for international humanitarian relief efforts in the region in all areas affected by the conflict in order to alleviate the continually increasing suffering of the civilian population. The Council reminds the parties that they are bound by and must adhere to the principles and rules of international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council will remain actively seized of the matter and will be ready to consider appropriate steps to ensure that all parties fully respect and comply with its resolutions."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/26326.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.3265
20 August 1993

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 20 August 1993, at 4.55 p.m.

President: Mrs. ALBRIGHT	(United States of America)
Members: Brazil	Mr. SARDENBERG
Cape Verde	Mr. BARBOZA
China	Mr. LI Zhaoxing
Djibouti	Mr. OIHAYE
France	Mr. MERIMEE
Hungary	Mr. MOLNAR
Japan	Mr. HATANO
Morocco	Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI
New Zealand	Mr. KEATING
Pakistan	Mr. NIAZ
Russian Federation	Mr. VORONTSOV
Spain	Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. RICHARDSON
Venezuela	Mr. ARRIA

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The meeting was called to order at 6.55 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR JUDGES

The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/26331, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

The following list of names will be added to the operative part of the draft resolution contained in document S/26331, in its provisional form:

Mr. Georges Michel ABI-SAAB (Egypt)
Mr. Julio A. BARBERIS (Argentina)
Mr. Raphaël BARRAS (Switzerland)
Mr. Sikhe CAMARA (Guinea)
Mr. Antonio CASSESE (Italy)
Mr. Hans Axel Valdemar CORELL (Sweden)
Mr. Jules DESCHENES (Canada)
Mr. Alfonso DE LOS HEROS (Peru)
Mr. Jerzy JASINSKI (Poland)
Mr. Heike JUNG (Germany)
Mr. Adolphus Godwin KARIBI-WHYTE (Nigeria)

(The President)

Mr. Valentin G. KISILEV (Russian Federation)
Mr. Germain LE FOYER DE COSTIL (France)
Mr. LI Naopei (China)
Ms. Gabrielle Kirk McDONALD (United States of America)
Mr. Amadou H'DIAYE (Mali)
Mr. Daniel David Standa NSEBEEKO (Uganda)
Ms. Elisabeth ODIO BENITO (Costa Rica)
Mr. Hüseyin PAZARCI (Turkey)
Mr. Moregodage Christopher Walter PINTO (Sri Lanka)
Mr. Rustan S. SIDHWA (Pakistan)
Sir Ninian STEPHEN (Australia)
Mr. Lal Chan VONRAH (Malaysia)

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

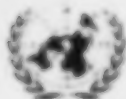
A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour: Brazil, Cape Verde, China, Djibouti, France, Hungary, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

The PRESIDENT: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 857 (1993).

The Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.3266

23 August 1993

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 23 August 1993, at 7 p.m.

President: Mrs. ALBRIGHT

(United States of America)

Members: Brasil
Cape Verde
China
Djibouti
France
Hungary
Japan
Morocco
New Zealand
Pakistan
Russian Federation
Spain
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
Venezuela

Mr. SARDENBERG
Mr. JESUS
Mr. LI Zhaoxing
Mr. OLHAYE
Mr. MERIMEE
Mr. MOLNAR
Mr. HATANO
Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI
Mr. KEATING
Mr. MARKER
Mr. VORONTSOV
Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO

Mr. RICHARDSON
Mr. ARRIA

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The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE SITUATION IN TAJIKISTAN AND ALONG THE TAJIK-AFGHAN BORDER

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN TAJIKISTAN (S/26311)

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform the Security Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Tajikistan in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Kayumov (Tajikistan) took a place at the Council table.

The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/26311, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following other documents: S/26241, letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; and S/26290, letter dated 10 August 1993 from the representatives of the Permanent Missions of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the

(The President)

Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the continuing violence and armed conflict in Tajikistan, at the escalating crisis along the Tajik-Afghan border, and at the risk of the conflict threatening the peace and stability of Central Asia and beyond.

"The Council stresses the urgent need for the cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik-Afghan border. It urges the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to accept as soon as possible the need for an overall political solution and to participate in a negotiating process for the early establishment of a cease-fire and eventual national reconciliation with the widest possible participation of all political groups and all the regions of the country. The Council looks to the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to observe basic political rights of all groups in Tajikistan, in order to promote a lasting reconciliation and to achieve full compliance with the principles to which Tajikistan is committed as a participating State in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

"The Council reaffirms the necessity to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tajikistan and all other countries of the region and the inviolability of their borders.

"The Council welcomes efforts by regional parties aimed at stabilizing the situation. In particular, the Council welcomes the 7 August 1993 Moscow summit of heads of State and Government from the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the

(The President)

Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, at the initiative of the Russian Federation, and the 6-7 July 1993 Istanbul summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and their decisions aimed at peaceful solutions to the problems on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Furthermore, it welcomes the efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). The Council recognizes the actions of the Governments of Afghanistan and Tajikistan who created new negotiating bodies aimed at reducing tension along their common border.

"The Council draws attention to the critical humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and the Tajik refugee camps in northern Afghanistan and the need for additional humanitarian assistance. Stabilizing the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border should assist UNHCR in performing its mission. The Council calls upon the Government of Tajikistan to continue to assist in the return and reintegration of all Tajiks who fled this civil war and who wish to return to their homes.

"The Council expresses appreciation of the Secretary-General's report of 16 August 1993 (S/26311) and welcomes the Secretary-General's proposals to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 October 1993 and to extend the tenure of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan for a period of three months. In light of the unstable situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, the Council welcomes the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch his Special Envoy to Afghanistan and other countries in the region. The Council also welcomes the receptivity of the Secretary-General to possible requests from the parties for United Nations assistance in their efforts already under way and requests that he and his Special Envoy maintain close contact with the parties.

(The President)

"The Council looks forward to receiving periodic reports from the Secretary-General on his Special Envoy's mission and the Secretary-General's recommendations for ways the United Nations may assist in resolving the situation and for defining more clearly the possible ambit of United Nations involvement.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/26341.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 7.05 p.m.



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.3267
24 August 1993

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 24 August 1993, at 5.05 p.m.

<u>President:</u> Mrs. ALBRIGHT	(United States of America)
<u>Members:</u> Brazil	Mr. SARDENBERG
Cape Verde	Mr. JESUS
China	Mr. LI Zhaoxing
Djibouti	Mr. OLHAYE
France	Mr. MERIMEE
Hungary	Mr. MOLNAR
Japan	Mr. HATANO
Morocco	Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI
New Zealand	Mr. KEATING
Pakistan	Mr. MARKER
Russian Federation	Mr. VORONTSOV
Spain	Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. RICHARDSON
Venezuela	Mr. ARRIA

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The meeting was called to order at 5.05 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in prior consultations.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council deplores the recent upsurge in violence and discord in South Africa, especially in the East Rand. This violence - terrible in its human toll - is even more tragic as the country proceeds on the path to a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa and a new, more promising future for all its citizens.

"The Council recalls its statement in resolution 765 (1992) that it is the responsibility of the South African authorities to take all necessary measures to stop immediately the violence and protect the life and property of all South Africans. The Council affirms that all parties in South Africa must assist the Government in preventing opponents of democracy from using violence to threaten the country's democratic transition. In this regard, the Council notes the proposal for a national peace force to restore and maintain order in volatile areas. Any such force should be genuinely representative of South African society and its major political bodies. Just as importantly, it must have the confidence, support and cooperation of the people of South

(The President)

Africa. The Council also welcomes efforts by the leaders of the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party to convince their followers to avoid further violence. The Council urges all of South Africa's leaders to work jointly to prevent violence in the election period ahead.

(The President)

"The Security Council commends the international community, including the Organization of African Unity, the European Community and the Commonwealth, for playing a constructive role in helping to curb the violence in South Africa. The United Nations Peace Monitors, under the able supervision of the chief of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa, have made a difference. People are alive today because of the tireless and courageous efforts of these and other international monitors. Yet far too many are dying. The world community must continue to signal firmly that it will not allow the violence to derail South Africa's political transition.

"The Council emphasizes the key role of the multiparty negotiating process in securing the transition to a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa. It urges the parties to reaffirm their commitment to the multiparty negotiating process, to redouble their efforts to reach consensus on the transitional arrangements and constitutional issues still outstanding and to proceed to elections as planned in the coming year.

"The Security Council reaffirms its determination to remain supportive of efforts to facilitate this peaceful transition to a non-racial democracy for the benefit of all South Africans. The Council is following developments in South Africa closely and will remain seized with the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/26347.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.3268
24 August 1993

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND
TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 24 August 1993, at 5.10 p.m.

President: Mrs. ALBRIGHT

(United States of America)

Members:

Brazil
Cape Verde
China
Djibouti
France
Hungary
Japan
Morocco
New Zealand
Pakistan
Russian Federation
Spain
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
Venezuela

Mr. SARDENBERG
Mr. JESUS
Mr. LI Zhaoning
Mr. OLMAYE
Mr. MERIMEE
Mr. MOLNAR
Mr. HATANO
Mr. BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI
Mr. KEATING
Mr. MARKER
Mr. VORONTSOV
Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO

Mr. RICHARDSON
Mr. ARRIA

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The meeting was called to order at 5.10 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE SITUATION IN GEORGIA

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN PURSUANCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 849 (1993) (S/26250)

The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of Security Council resolution 849 (1993), documents S/26250 and S/26250/Add.1, and two letters, dated 4 and 6 August 1993, respectively, from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council, contained in documents S/26254 and S/26264.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/26348, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour: Brazil, Cape Verde, China, Djibouti, France, Hungary, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

The PRESIDENT: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has therefore been adopted unanimously as resolution 858 (1993).

(The President)

I shall now call upon those members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Mr. MERIMÉE (France) (interpretation from French): The situation in Georgia is of concern to the French Government, which is following very closely the efforts of the parties to find a solution to the Abkhaz conflict. The parties have managed, since the Sochi Agreement of 27 July last, to set up their own tripartite machinery to monitor the cease-fire, and we welcome this. The parties have turned to the Security Council to obtain United Nations involvement to provide a form of backing for the peace-keeping operations carried out locally.

After Liberia, just recently, the Council is once again faced with a situation that is new to it, which consists in the United Nations intervening on the ground alongside other, regional players. This type of action poses a number of problems, in particular the problem of delimiting precisely who has what responsibilities. The Secretariat has provided the explanations we desired concerning the mandate of the United Nations military observers in Abkhazia. My delegation welcomes the fact that the resolution adopted today provides for a regular review of the operational provisions for implementing that mandate in the light of the progress made towards establishing a lasting peace.

The other essential element, in our view, is the start to a process of negotiating a political settlement. My delegation regrets the lack of precise provisions for convening an international conference under United Nations auspices. In that regard, we expect the parties to make, soon, formal commitments towards that end.

Mr. VORONTSOV (Russian Federation) (interpretation from Russian):

We believe that the adoption of the resolution establishing the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia is an important step that enables the United Nations to render real assistance to the efforts to implement the Agreement on a cease-fire in Abkhazia and on the setting up of compliance monitoring machinery - the Agreement signed in Sochi on 27 July this year - and, as a whole, to the political settlement of the protracted conflict in Abkhazia, Republic of Georgia.

I should like once again to emphasize here the very great significance of the Sochi Agreement, which contains solutions to the key problems that have for a long time hindered the achievement of agreements capable of halting the protracted bloodshed. The document signed in Sochi establishes a real basis for ensuring a stable cease-fire and the shift to the next stage: working out a comprehensive political settlement to the conflict in Abkhazia.

As we know, the Agreement makes provision for active assistance from the international community in normalizing the situation in Abkhazia. The presence of United Nations observers - the Russian side is convinced - is of extreme political and practical importance. It is vitally necessary for effectively ensuring the stability of the cease-fire regime and strict compliance with the other provisions of the Sochi Agreement of 27 July. Incidentally, the assessment of the Russian representative to the joint settlement commission is that the measures provided for by the Sochi Agreement have already been 80 per cent fulfilled.

(Mr. Vorontsov, Russian Federation)

The leadership of the Republic of Georgia also attaches very great significance to the most rapid deployment possible of the United Nations Observer Mission in the Abkhaz conflict zone. The Head of State of Georgia, Eduard Shevardnadze, who has just had useful talks in Moscow, has called the participation of international observers an important factor in ensuring that the conflict in Abkhazia does not flare up again.

In this connection, we express our gratitude to the United Nations Secretariat for deploying an advance team of observers in Abkhazia in implementation of Security Council resolution 854 (1993). The team immediately became involved in working to observe the implementation of the highest priority measures provided for by the 27 July Agreement, quickly organized cooperation with the other monitoring bodies and became an important constituent part of the mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the Sochi Agreement.

(Mr. Vorontsov,
Russian Federation)

The Russian Federation agrees with the concept, approved in the resolution, of the Observer Mission to monitor the cease-fire in Abkhazia, and with the size of the mission, which has been set at up to 88 military observers. We believe that this is the absolute minimum number to carry out effectively the great volume of tasks facing the Mission.

The resolution adopted by the Security Council concerning the establishment of a United Nations Observer Mission in Abkhazia must be implemented in the next few days. The Secretariat has done a colossal amount of work each day in preparing the Mission, and in detailed planning of the various aspects of its activities, particularly those related to the interaction of the international observers with the other monitoring groups on site.

We should like to express to the Secretariat our profound gratitude for that work. We also earnestly request the Secretariat to conclude this work and send at least the first group of observers approved in the resolution to the conflict zone within the next few days. We are convinced that it is possible. Time will not wait.

Mr. RICHARDSON (United Kingdom): I will make only three brief points.

First, we warmly welcome the passage of this resolution, and we look to the earliest possible dispatch of the main body of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) to Georgia. We are encouraged that the parties concerned have already made much progress in implementing the cease-fire agreement, and we look to the arrival of UNOMIG to consolidate the cease-fire agreement and achieve its full implementation.

(Mr. Richardson, United Kingdom)

Secondly, the cease-fire agreement itself contains a number of detailed provisions for the interaction of UNOMIG, the tripartite monitors and the Joint Commission. The relationship between these three bodies is not always entirely clear, but will no doubt become so in the light of experience. That is why my delegation attaches particular importance to the provision in our resolution whereby the Council decides to keep under constant review the operational arrangements set out in this mandate, and to revert to them if necessary in the light of any recommendations the Secretary-General may make. The various agreements may need some fine tuning and might benefit from greater precision as to who does what.

Thirdly, and perhaps most important of all we have a cease-fire agreement, but we do not yet have a comprehensive political settlement. It is not the first time that this has happened, and it probably will not be the last, but it helps to explain why my delegation attaches the greatest importance to the early initiation of negotiations for a comprehensive political settlement, and I very much hope that we shall all be able to encourage the parties to meet as rapidly as possible. Suggestions have been made for meetings in Geneva in September, but whatever the time, venue or format the Council should be aiming to encourage the rapid conclusion of a comprehensive political settlement, without which a cease-fire agreement may well not work over time.

Mr. MOLNAR (Hungary): The delegation of the Republic of Hungary would like to express its firm conviction that the comprehensive United Nations efforts aimed at solving the complex issue of peace in Georgia have reached a decisive phase.

At the present juncture, we are looking forward to establishing a United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG). As the Secretariat's response

(Mr. Molnar, Hungary)

to questions raised by the Security Council puts it very well,

"... if the peace process is to be successful, it is of the utmost importance that the cease-fire should continue to hold and be effectively monitored by UNOMIG".

We believe that resolutions 849 (1993) and 854 (1993) have created a solid framework for the parties to find the way towards a peaceful solution to this problem. Our delegation appreciates the Secretary-General's efforts to launch a peace process involving the parties to the conflict.

We would like to voice our hope that the Secretary-General's report dated 6 August 1993 and the questions that members of the Security Council raised concerning its contents, as well as the detailed and careful information the Secretary-General presented in response to those questions, will provide us with a sound basis for formulating our opinion concerning the situation in Georgia in general, and the establishment of a United Nations Observer Mission in particular.

The information on the cease-fire agreement of 27 July between the Government of Georgia and the Abkhaz authorities in Gudauta, through the mediation of the representative of the Russian Federation, gave a new impetus to our hope that a just and peaceful settlement is achievable. That hope was reinforced when we learned of - again I refer to the Secretariat's paper:

"the generally favourable impression, which the Secretariat's representatives have gained, regarding the progress in the implementation of the cease-fire agreement".

We support the Secretariat's opinion that

"... the purpose of the negotiating efforts under the auspices of the United Nations will be to find a comprehensive political settlement acceptable to the parties in conflict ...".

(Mr. Molnar, Hungary)

The Hungarian delegation supports the Security Council's efforts to help elaborate a workable, peaceful solution to the crisis. That is why we share the views of those who are in favour of sending the observer group to Georgia.

Finally, we are convinced that the resolution which the Council has just adopted is a carefully elaborated and well balanced contribution to the long and arduous process of bringing peace back to the heavily tried land of Georgia.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now make a statement in my capacity as representative of the United States.

The United States warmly welcomes the Council's decision to dispatch an Observer Mission to Georgia to help monitor the cease-fire that was agreed upon recently. We attach great significance to the opportunity this cease-fire agreement represents for real and lasting progress towards a durable political settlement to the conflict and the contribution that peace in this instance could make towards peace in the region.

The Observer Mission can play a vital role in helping to create the conditions necessary for genuine and substantive peace negotiations to proceed. The Mission cannot, of course, guarantee the success of peace negotiations. That can be accomplished only by the parties to the conflict, with international encouragement and assistance. We anticipate that if the parties approach the maintenance of the cease-fire and the establishment of a genuine negotiating process with the same political courage as they have brought to agreeing on a cease-fire, the need for an Observer Mission will be of shorter, rather than longer, duration.

(The President)

We want one thing to be clear. The Observer Mission can operate effectively only if the parties to the conflict have the political will to resolve their differences by negotiation. If that will should be absent, we would see no justification for prolonging the Mission.

I now resume my functions as President of the Council.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.